Minutes of the JOINT ~ UTILITIES and FINANCE Committee which held a meeting on Monday, July 13th, 2026 at 6:20 p.m. *circulated 7/30/2026*

FINANCE PRESENT: Chair Tollett, Cerra, Schneider, Van Wormer, Davis
COM DEV PRESENT: Chair Schneider, Mitchell, Doehne, Lipian, Rothgery
UTILITIES PRESENT: Chair Mitchell, Davis, Armstrong, Oswald, Rothgery
EXCUSED ABSENCE: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Brubaker, Law Dir Deery, Safety Svc Dir Pyanowski, Finance Dir Pileski, Building Official Farkas, Planning Dir Schoenig, Engineer Schneider, Public Works Supt. Conner, CD Mgr. Almobayyed, CD Dir Scott, Reclamation Supt Stewart, Public Works Supt. Smallwood, Asst Dir Loesch

1.The matter of approval of meeting minutes of the JOINT Utilities, Safety & Environment Committee and Finance Committee Meeting, which took place on June 8th, 2026, *as circulated 6/23/2026*

UTILITIES COMMITTEE:
Motion made by Mr. Oswald and seconded by Mr. Armstrong to approve the said Minutes.
MOTION CARRIES
FINANCE COMMITTEE:
Motion made by Mr. Cerra and seconded by Mr. Van Wormer to approve the said Minutes.
MOTION CARRIES

2. The matter of applying for and accept if offered, an Ohio Public Works Commission Grant, Round 41, for repair/reconstructing/resurfacing of sections of Winckles St., West Ave., Gulf Rd., Olive St. and Garden St.
Referred By: Engineer Schneider

Engineer Schneider said they need to get applications in for Ohio Public Works projects for next year. They did bid the projects for this year's projects and those will be starting soon. They've identified 5 locations that they are asking for council's approval to move forward with.

Mr. Oswald asked what is the section where the Gulf Rd road work will be done?
Engineer Schneider said it's from Hilliard to Dilworth.

Mr. Lipian asked what is the section of Winkles?
Engineer Schneider said it's the entire section between Clark and Taylor.

Chair Mitchell asked about Garden St., from Woodford to Barbara and if that will be done once the new CMG will be completed? Will it be a total resurfacing?

Engineer Schneider said the plan is to resurface that entire area of Garden. They are applying for all five streets, odds are they may only get three.

Mr. Cerra asked about Olive.
Engineer Schneider said it's all of Olive from Poplar to Taylor.

Mr. Armstrong thanked the Engineering Dept. for applying for these streets and that West Ave is very bumpy and everyone will be happy if that gets done.

Law Dir Deery asked if this will need to go as emergency since the Round applications are due by early September?

Engineer Schneider said no, not needed to go as emergency.

There were no more questions and Chair Mitchell read the committee report and asked for a motion:
UTILITIES:
Motion made by Mr. Oswald and second by Mr. Armstrong to authorize the Mayor to apply for and accept the said grant and/or loan, if offered.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

Chair Tollett asked for a motion from Finance.
FINANCE:
Motion made by Mr. Van Wormer and second by Mr. Schneider to authorize the Mayor to apply for and accept the said grant and/or loan, if offered.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

3. The matter of entering into a contract for the Water Reclamation Facility for Sludge Cake Disposal.
Referred By: Water Reclamation Supt. Stewart

Supt Stewart said this is a general house keeping item. It's for disposal of sludge cake that is produced at the facility. The current contract expires in October. They would seek to do another one-year contract with the option for two additional years.

Chair Mitchell asked how much that contract will be?

Supt Stewart said it's dependent on the price that the wet ton that it's bid by. Last year they produced 4,400 wet tons, average to about $179,000, which is very good pricing. Supt Stewart asked for this to be passed as emergency for the timing.

There were no more questions and Chair Mitchell read the committee report and asked for a motion:
UTILITIES:
Motion made by Mrs. Rothgery and second by Mr. Armstrong to authorize the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into 'said' contract. Emergency clause.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

Chair Tollett asked for a motion from Finance.

FINANCE:
Motion made by Mr. Van Wormer and second by Mr. Schneider to authorize the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into 'said' contract. Emergency clause.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

4. The matter of amending Chapter 373 of the Elyria Codified Ordinances, to add Section 373.99, penalty for bicycles and motorcycles.
Referred By: Law Director Deery

Law Dir Deery said there previously was a provision, 373.99 of our codified ordinances. In sometime over the last 10 years, that was repealed as a part of revisions to chapter 373, which was an inadvertent repeal. 0.99 of all of our ordinance, is the penalty provision. Per request of the bicycle committee, which is advised by City Planner Schoenig and also in conversations with EPD and they requested the penalty provision be replaced. There are other penalties already in chapter 373, but, they are more specific in nature for specific violations. Many of them have to do with traffic that are committed by individuals who happen to be on a bicycle or e-bike or similar vehicles. Proposed 373.99 is taken directly from the Ohio Revised Code and the committee and the committee and Chief Welsh are in favor of this language.

There were no questions and Chair Mitchell read the committee report and asked for a motion:
UTILITIES:
Motion made by Mr. Oswald and second by Mr. Armstrong to authorize amending the 'said' chapter of the codified ordinances and adding the said new section.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

Chair Tollett asked for a motion from Finance.
FINANCE:
Motion made by Mr. Van Wormer and second by Mrs. Davis to authorize amending the 'said' chapter of the codified ordinance and adding the said new section.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

5. The matter of revising and amending Chapter 959, of the Elyria Codified Ordinances, Sanitation Rules.
Referred By: Safety Service Dir Pyanowski

Dir Pyanowski said this is housekeeping, updating and revisions. The biggest change addresses bulk pick up. What they are proposing is basically each customer would be entitled to a 3.5 cubic yard bulk pick-up, which is the size of the truck. The bulk pickup goes into the rear loader manually and is compressed. The basin of the truck is 3.5 cubic yards. If a resident exceeds that in any particular week, then they would be charged $13.55 for excess bulk which is one of the things that cost quite a bit and has been largely unregulated and adds to the bottom line because all that goes to the landfill and adds to our tonnage. This will allow us to recoup for the excess bulk and it remains fair for the resident who occasionally needs to throw away large items. Other changes and updates of the rates will remain as they currently are and projected into 2028.

So, for the next couple of years, it reflects rates that have already been adopted. Those are the majority of the changes other than some word changes and cleaning up some of the language which may not have been as clear.

Chair Tollett said that the 3.5 cubic yards fills an entire empty truck and asked if that is correct?

Dir Pyanowski said this is the size of that basin where they load into before they compress. They did check the specs and that is why he changed it to the 3.5 cubic yards instead of the original one cubic yard. That will remove discrepancy from the crews having to measure the cubic yards of trash that is being loaded. Once that basin is full and they compress it and if they have to compress it a second time. The crews have a little discretion based on what they're seeing, to be fair and to recoup when it's obvious when there is excess bulk. They will have a sheet to fill and submit it to Utilities Dept. and that will be added to the next bill for that address. It makes it clear what the parameters are and what the service will include.

Mr. Oswald thanked the department and he has had conversations many times on this bulk issue. He wonders if the residents really appreciate these services. He has remodeled houses for a long time and has had bulk items always picked up. Landlords should be incurring some costs associated with an eviction or when a tenant moves out. He is glad there are some parameters for the bulk pick up. He supports this. The department does a great job.

Mrs. Davis said she supports this as well. She has Mr. Smallwood's number on speed dial. She notices how some residents wait until trash day has passed to put their trash on the curb. She doesn't want the neighbors to have to see someone's trash on the curb over the weekend and she appreciates Mr. Smallwood taking of these issues when they come up.

Mr. Lipian asked where the funds for this will go?

Dir Pyanowski said everything collected will go into the sanitation fund.

Mr. Lipian said that is good for the department especially in leu of the decision of the future of the Sanitation Dept and for everyone to find creative means to add funding to the department.

Mr. Schneider thanked Mr. Smallwood and Dir Pyanowski for coming up with a great way of how to charge the residents for these services.

Mr. Oswald thought at one time residents could drop off large items directly to the Sanitation Dept at the CMG. Is that still available?

Dir Pyanowski said there is no longer a drop off at the CMG location.

Chair Mitchell echoed comments of everyone, that Mr. Smallwood is always more than helpful and she appreciates what the department does.

There were no more questions and Chair Mitchell read the committee report and asked for a motion:
UTILITIES:
Motion made by Mr. Oswald and second by Mr. Armstrong to authorize to amend the 'said' chapter of the codified ordinances, sanitation rules and regulations.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

Chair Tollett asked for a motion from Finance.
FINANCE:
Motion made by Mr. Van Wormer and second by Mr. Schneider to authorize to amend the 'said' chapter of the codified ordinances, sanitation rules and regulations.
MOTION CARRIES COMMITTEE REPORT WRITTEN

There was no further business to come before the Utilities, Safety & Environment Committee and Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to adjourn Utilities portion of the evening's meetings.

Motion made by Mr. Oswald and second by Mrs. Rothgery to adjourn the Utilities Safety & Environment Committee portion of this evening's meetings at 6:40 P.M.
MOTION CARRIES

This evening's meetings continued with The Finance Committee which was called to order at 6:45 P.M.

The Next Joint Utilities and Finance Committee Meeting will take place on Monday, August 10th, 2026 [as needed].

Respectfully Submitted by,
Colleen Rosado, Secretary/Administrative Assistant